

# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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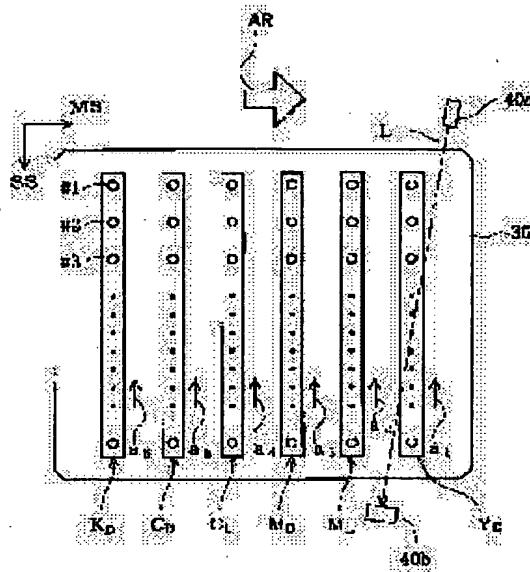
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**(54) METHOD FOR DETECTING INOPERATIVE NOZZLE RELATED TO PRINTING APPARATUS, PRINTING APPARATUS, AND RECORDING MEDIUM WITH PROGRAM THEREFOR RECORDED THEREON**

**(57)Abstract:**

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To enhance a detection accuracy for inoperative nozzles by lowering the possibility that nozzles deviating in a discharge direction of ink drops from an estimated direction are mistakenly detected as inoperative nozzles.

**SOLUTION:** Whether or not the nozzle is inoperative is judged by whether or not an irradiated light is blocked by ink drops discharged from the nozzle. After the first inspection, a second inspection is carried out by changing a cross state of a track space of ink drops and an optical path of the light.



**LEGAL STATUS**

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